

Middletown Commission on the Arts

Minutes, February 26, 2014

Present

Jenny Hawkins Lecce (v.chair)
Franca Biales (sec.)
Charlotte McCoid
Joyce Kirkpatrick
Fran Ganguli
Barbara Arafah
Richard Kamins
Lee Godburn
Sebastian Giuliano
Robert Santangelo

Also Present

Stephan Allison, staff

Absent

Cassandra Day (chair)

Call to order

Commission Vice Chair Jenny Hawkins Lecce called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. in Municipal Building Room B 19

Public session: no public

Minutes from January 22, 2014

- Motion to approve by Kamins, seconded by Godburn. Discussion: Kirkpatrick made a correction. Nancy Kelly is the Managing Director of the GMC. Motion to approve minutes as amended by Kamins, seconded by Godburn. Discussion. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.
Hawkins Lecce moved to suspend this meeting at 7:07 p.m. to rejoin recessed Cat. 1 grant committee meeting. Rejoined this meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the meeting agenda as written by Kamins, seconded by Godburn. Carried unanimously.

Remarks from the Chair

No remarks

Old Business:

a) Budget Report

Allison electronically distributed the current spreadsheets for review prior to the meeting.

b) Program Update

- i. Arts Stakeholders Group – Meeting was well attended. Subcommittee continues to meet to improve its presence downtown.

c) Visual Arts Competition- ongoing

d) Grant Review Process

- i) Standardized interview questions- ongoing and to be discussed at next meeting.
- ii) Setting policy/standards for sustaining established arts organizations- done
- iii) 2014-2015 goals - #1 goal is to fill seats on MCA. To be discussed further at next meeting.

Committee Reports:

a) Public Art Committee

- i) Public Art Policy for Acquisitions-Ongoing- They met this week and concepts were discussed. Minutes for meeting have been submitted.

b) Executive Committee

- i) Arts Advocacy nominations-Commissioners voted. The Art Advocacy Award this year will go to Deborah Moore and to Artists for World Peace. Commissioner Godburn will organize the event to honor these recipients. Kirkpatrick made a motion, seconded by McCoid to allow up to \$150 to be spent on supplies for the celebration. Discussion. No Discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

- ii) Other- none
- c) **Nominating Committee**
 - i. Review of Bylaws – ongoing
 - ii. Nomination suggestions- Pending

New Business:

- a) Grant Applications recommendations/decisions- All Categories.
 Motion to accept recommendation of the grants panel for Category 2&3 made by Godburn, seconded by Kamins. Biales, Godburn, Hawkins Lecce, McCoid, Kamins, Kirkpatrick, Arafeh voted to accept the recommendation. Ganguli was absent for the vote.
Categories 2 and 3 -
 Wesleyan University-Davison Art Center - \$500 for The Big Draw: Middletown
 Evelyn Farbman for "Lives in Music" - \$1,500 for "Lives in Music" community conversations and public concert
 Artists for World Peace - \$1,500 for 3rd Annual Dance for Peace event
 Jennifer Shafer a/k/a J-Cherry - \$1,000 for Middletown Music Festival

Category 1- Kirkpatrick and Arafeh recused themselves 8:23pm. Discussion ensued. Kamins moved to accept the consensus of the Commission, seconded by Godburn. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously. Kirkpatrick and Arafeh returned 8:35pm.

Category 1 -
 Greater Middletown Concert Association - \$8,000 for operating support
 North End Arts Rising, Inc. - \$10,000 for operating support
 Greater Middletown Chorale - \$4,000 for operating support
 Oddfellows Playhouse - \$7,500 for operating support
 ArtFarm - \$8,000 for Shakespeare in the Grove production of "King Lear"

Miscellaneous:

Grant Reports- were emailed to the commission

Announcements

Amanda Monaco will be performing at Adath Israel Synagogue on March 6@ 7:00 \$10.00
 Adath Israel Synagogue will be co-sponsoring the Lysander Trio, Russell Library, March 27 @7:00PM
 MPS K-12 Art Exhibit at the Zilkha Gallery
 Greater Middletown Concert Association is collecting Ellis Island stories
 Xavier and Mercy HS are performing *Les Miserables* Feb. 28, March 1&2 at Mercy HS
 MHS will perform *Anything Goes* March 13 @7:00, March 14 @7:00 and March 15 @2:00 and @ 7:00
 Arts2go banners will be on light posts downtown by March 15

Other- none

Adjournment:

Vice Chair Hawkins Lecce entertained a motion from Kamins to adjourn at 8:43 p.m., seconded by Godburn. The MCA will next meet for its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 26, 2014, room B19 Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
 Franca Biales